

**I. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Kindly amend claim 6 as follows.

The following claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the present application.

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-5 have been cancelled.

6. (Currently Amended) A band-shaped strap including:

at a first end a first strand provided with a buckle and tongue and at a second end a second strand through the thickness of which holes pass, intended to be attached in a removable manner to the first strand by engaging in the buckle, each strand being formed of a continuous flexible band, the buckle including two lateral branches each provided with a hole, a removable transverse bar the ends of which are arranged for engaging in the holes of the branches, and a tongue having an eyelet part rotatably engaged on said bar, the first strand having an end orifice arranged transversely close to a free end of the strand, said end orifice extending in a plane parallel to that of the strand for receiving said bar, and an end notch extending from said free end to beyond the end orifice to receive the eyelet part of the tongue,

wherein the first strand includes a plurality of additional transverse orifices distributed over a certain length of the strand from the end orifice and each associated with an elongated hole passing through the thickness of the strand and intersecting with the associated transverse orifice, such that the first strand can be shortened by cutting along a transverse section passing through any one of said elongated holes, the transverse orifice associated with the hole becoming a new end orifice for receiving said bar, and the elongated hole through

which the cutting has been made becomes a new end notch for receiving the eyelet part of the tongue.

7. (Previously Presented) The strap according to claim 6, wherein said transverse section associated with each elongated hole is marked by a groove on at least one face of the first strand.

8. (Previously Presented) The strap according to claim 6, wherein each elongated hole extends from said associated transverse section to beyond the associated transverse orifice.

9. (Previously Presented) The strap according to claim 6, wherein the strands are made of synthetic material.

10. (Previously Presented) The strap according to claim 6, wherein the first strand is a moulded part.

11. (Previously Presented) The strap according to claim 6, wherein the strands are made of synthetic material comprising polyurethane.

12. (Previously Presented) The strap according to claim 6, wherein the strap is a watch strap.